

For release \_\_\_\_\_

From the Birmingham Black Barons  
of the Negro American League

Now in his third season of Negro American League competition with the powerful Birmingham Black Barons, who play the \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, is Lorenzo ("Piper") Davis, who is fast winning acclaim as one of the greatest stars in colored baseball history.

Davis, a twenty-five year old, clean cut lad standing six feet four inches in height, is first-baseman on the Birmingham club, which is seeking its third successive Negro American League championship this season. And "Piper", so nicknamed after the town of his birth, Piper, Ala., is one reason why they are confident of accomplishing this.

Davis came up to the Black Barons from the Birmingham Industrial League at the start of the 1943 season and won a reputation as the "Marion Martin of Negro baseball" as a brilliant shortstop. When the draft depleted the Baron first-baseman, he took over that position for the 1944 campaign. The move not only gave the Birmingham team the finest initial-sacker in the business but made possible the uncovering at shortstop of another sensation off the Birmingham lots in Art Wilson, a veritable ball-of-fire last season.

"Piper" is not only a great fielder, but one of the best hitters in colored ranks. He bats in the Barons' clean-up berth and his fierce line drives are noted both for quantity and distance. He has hit well over the .300 mark in both of his seasons with Birmingham and has been around the top of the league in homers and extra base blows. He was selected for the East-West All-Star game last year but couldn't play because of an injured hand.

A great all-around athlete, Davis is a star in the winter months with the famed Harlem Globetrotters basketball team. He is married, has two children and is 4-F in the draft.